



**Canada. Cost of Living**











CAI MI 9  
-70C54

# CANADA

Canada :

## A SERIES OF FACT SHEETS ON CANADA

CAI MI 9-70C54

DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION  
OTTAWA

### COST OF LIVING

OCTOBER 1970

People immigrate for a variety of reasons, but very few do so without being to some extent motivated by the hope that they will improve their standard of living.

To provide a meaningful basis of comparison, the following tables of average Canadian prices for several groups of commodities have been prepared. They show both the price of the commodity and the conversion into working time needed to earn the

required amount.

The working time is based on an hourly rate (arbitrarily chosen) of Canadian \$2.40 an hour during a 40-hour week. Taxes and other compulsory deductions have not been taken into consideration.

On page 4 you will also find a table indicating how an average Canadian family spends its income before taxes.

### METRIC EQUIVALENTS

1 pound	=	453 grams
1/2 pound	=	227 grams
1 gallon	=	4.5 liters
1 quart	=	1.1 liters
1 pint	=	0.5 liters

Ed: Conversion is given only when measurement first appears



Disponible en français sous le titre: COÛT DE LA VIE

## FOOD

ITEM	PRICE	WORKING TIME NEEDED
<b>DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>		
Milk, fresh, 1 quart (1.1 liters)	\$0.32	8 minutes
Butter, 1 pound (453 grams)	\$0.72	18 minutes
Cheese, plain, ½ pound (226 grams)	\$0.47	13 minutes
Infants' canned milk	\$0.17	4 minutes
<b>POULTRY AND EGGS</b>		
Eggs, fresh, grade A, large, dozen	\$0.59	15 minutes
Chicken (eviscerated, grade A) pound	\$0.50	12 minutes
<b>BEEF</b>		
Sirloin Steak, pound	\$1.40	35 minutes
Hamburger, pound	\$0.68	17 minutes
<b>PORK</b>		
Pork chop, pound	\$1.06	27 minutes
Sausage, pure pork, pound	\$0.77	19 minutes
Ham, smoked, boneless, pound	\$1.39	35 minutes
<b>OTHER MEATS</b>		
Lamb, leg roast, pound	\$0.83	21 minutes
Veal, loin chops, pound	\$1.42	36 minutes
<b>FISH</b>		
Cod fillets, frozen, pound	\$0.52	13 minutes
<b>FATS</b>		
Margarine, pound	\$0.32	8 minutes
Olive oil, 1 gallon, 4.5 liters	\$5.50	2 hours, 18 minutes
Vegetable oil, 1 gallon	\$3.00	1 hour, 15 minutes
<b>CEREAL PRODUCTS</b>		
Bread, plain, white, sliced, pound	\$0.20	5 minutes
Rice, 42 ounces, long grain (1.9 kilograms)	\$0.91	22 minutes
Flour, white, pound	\$0.12	3 minutes
Macaroni, dry, pound	\$0.24	6 minutes
<b>SWEETS</b>		
Sugar, granulated, pound	\$0.11	
	\$0.33	3 minutes
Jam, strawberry, 2 pound (906 grams) jar	\$0.77	8 minutes
Honey, white, 2 pound jar		19 minutes
<b>FRUITS</b>		
Oranges, California, medium-sized, dozen	\$0.59	15 minutes
Bananas, pound	\$0.17	4½ minutes
Raisins, California, Australia, pound	\$0.44	11 minutes
Orange juice, unsweetened, 19 ounces (.6 liter)	\$0.24	6 minutes
<b>VEGETABLES</b>		
Potatoes, 10 pounds (45 kilograms)	\$0.55	14 minutes
Onions, pound	\$0.17	4½ minutes
Carrots, pound	\$0.14	4 minutes
Cabbage, pound	\$0.10	3 minutes
Lettuce, head, fresh, pound	\$0.22	5 minutes
Green peas, frozen, 12 ounces (339.6 grams)	\$0.27	7 minutes
Infants' food, vegetable, tin 4¾ ounces (126.4 grams)	\$0.13	3 minutes
Tomato juice, fancy, 48 ounces (1.3 liters)	\$0.40	10 minutes



ITEM	PRICE	WORKING TIME NEEDED
<b>BEVERAGES</b>		
Tea, 1 pound	\$1.26	31 minutes
Tea bags, orange pekoe, package 60 bags	\$0.83	21 minutes
Coffee, instant, dry, jar, 6 ounces (169.8 grams)	\$1.06	26 minutes
Coffee, 1 pound	\$1.30	33 minutes

## CLOTHING

<b>MEN'S WEAR</b>		
Leather shoes, oxfords	\$ 8.00 and up	3 hours, 20 minutes
Men's suit, rayon	\$35.00 and up	14½ hours, 7 minutes
Men's suit, wool	\$67.50 and up	28 hours, 7 minutes
Men's business shirt	\$ 4.00 and up	1 hour, 40 minutes
Harris tweed jacket	\$35.00 and up	14½ hours
Men's raincoat	\$20.00 and up	8 hours, 20 minutes
Men's hat	\$ 7.00 and up	2 hours, 54 minutes
Men's wool overcoat	\$70.00 and up	29 hours, 10 minutes
Sweater	\$10.00 and up	4 hours, 10 minutes
Undershirt (T-shirt)	\$ 1.25 and up	31 minutes
Undershorts	\$ 1.25 and up	31 minutes
Slacks, rayon	\$ 7.00 and up	2 hours, 54 minutes
Socks	\$ 1.00 and up	25 minutes
<b>WOMEN'S WEAR</b>		
Street dress, 2 piece, wool	\$40.00 and up	16 hours, 40 minutes
Street dress, rayon	\$17.00 and up	7 hours, 4 minutes
Summer dresses, rayon	\$ 5.00 and up	2 hours, 5 minutes
Panty hose	\$ 1.39 and up	35 minutes
Panties	\$ 1.00 and up	25 minutes
Bra	\$ 2.50 and up	1 hour, 2 minutes
Wool-lined leather gloves	\$ 7.00 and up	2 hours, 54 minutes
Blouse	\$ 6.00 and up	2½ hours
Raincoat	\$25.00 and up	10 hours, 25 minutes
Wool pant suit	\$30.00 and up	12½ hours
Wool coat	\$30.00 and up	12½ hours
Shoes, leather	\$ 7.00 and up	2 hours, 54 minutes
<b>INFANTS' DIAPERS</b>		
Package 72 disposable diapers	\$ 1.50	37 minutes

## FUEL

High octane gasoline, gallon	\$ 0.54	15 minutes
Low octane gasoline, gallon	\$ 0.49	13 minutes

## TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

2-door, family-sized Canadian-built car, standard gear and not including provincial tax. 30% normal depreciation on price after 1 year	\$2,845.00	29½ weeks
Subway or bus fare	\$ 0.30	7 minutes
Telephone (per month) plus an installation fee of \$9	\$ 5.50	2 hours, 17 minutes

## FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES

Bedroom set	\$145.00 and up	60 hours, 24 minutes
Dining room set	\$125.00 and up	52 hours, 24 minutes
Television set 12-inch black and white	\$130.00	54 hours
Television set 19-inch color	\$450.00	4 weeks, 27 hours
AM-FM table model radio	\$ 40.00	16 hours, 40 minutes











